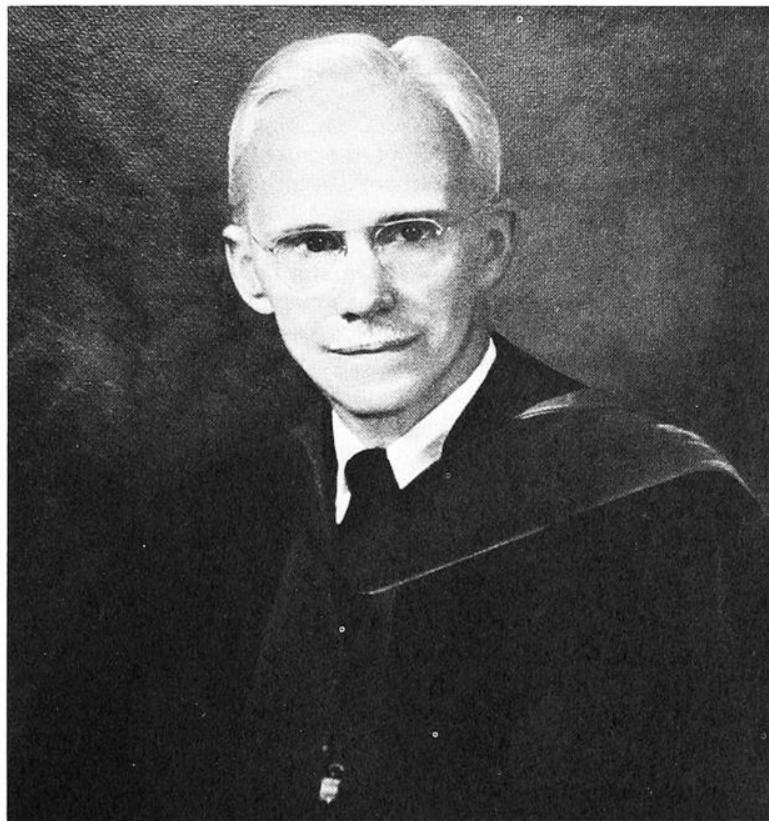


“A Prince Has Fallen”

(A 10-page Memorial Section on Dr. Alva J. McClain)



“A prince and a great man has fallen.” A deeply impressive memorial service was held for Dr. Alva J. McClain on November 14, 1968, in the Winona Lake Auditorium. An estimated 900 persons attended.

The service was conducted by Dr. Homer A. Kent, Sr., vice president of Grace Schools. Scripture was read by Dr. S. Herbert Bess, teacher of Hebrew and the Old Testament at Grace Seminary, followed by prayer from Rev. John M. Aeby, pastor of the Grace Brethren Church of Waterloo, Iowa.

The Grace College Choir, Professor Donald Ogden, director, sang “Jesus, the Joy of Man’s Desiring” by Bach, immediately following Pastor Aeby’s prayer. Tributes were given by Dr. Herman A. Hoyt, president of Grace Schools and upon whom in a very real sense Dr. McClain’s mantle of service has fallen; Dr. Kenneth B. Ashman, president of the board of trustees of Grace Schools; Dr. Russell D. Barnard, moderator of the National Fellowship of Brethren Churches; Dr. J. Palmer Muntz, a former official of the Winona Lake Christian Assembly; and Dr. Paul R. Bauman, administrator at LeTourneau College.

Dr. Orville D. Jobson, a close friend of the McClains and one who was largely influenced by Dr. McClain to serve the Lord on the foreign mission field of Africa, delivered a triumphant message.

The Grace Choir and special chorus victoriously climaxed the service by singing the “Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s Messiah. Dr. Hoyt closed with prayer.

The burial service took place at Oakwood Cemetery in Warsaw, with the committal service being conducted by Dr. Kent, Sr.

DR. McCLAIN —HIS LIFE

Dr. Alva J. McClain, founder and president emeritus of Grace Theological Seminary and Grace College, died at 3:15 a.m., November 11, at Friendship Village, Waterloo, Iowa.

Born in Aurelia, Iowa, on April 11, 1888, he was the son of Rev. Walter and Mary McClain. On June 7, 1911, at Yakima, Washington, he married Josephine Gingrich.

His formal education was received at the following schools: University of Washington and Antioch College; A.B., (Phi Beta Kappa), Occidental College; Graduate with Diploma in Theology, Xenia Theological Seminary; Th.M., *ibid*; D.D., Bible Institute of Los Angeles; LL.D., Bob Jones College.

He was ordained to the ministry of The Brethren Church in 1917, and pas-

tored the First Brethren Church of Philadelphia for eight years.

He was on the faculties of these institutions: Philadelphia School of the Bible, Ashland College, Bible Institute of Los Angeles, and Ashland Theological Seminary.

In 1937 Dr. McClain, along with Dr. Herman A. Hoyt, the current president of Grace Schools, founded Grace Theological Seminary in Akron, Ohio, with thirty-nine students. In 1939 the school was moved to Winona Lake. Dr. McClain guided the founding of Grace College in 1948 and served as president of both schools until his retirement in 1962. McClain Hall, the administration and seminary classroom building on Grace campus, was named in his honor in 1966.

He served for fifty years on the board of the Brethren Foreign Missionary Society, having been appointed as recording secretary to the board in 1917. He was elected moderator of the general conference of The Brethren Church in 1930 and 1934, and served on the board of directors of the Winona Lake Christian Assembly since

1942. He was a member of the Evangelical Theological Society, the National Association of Phi Beta Kappa, and was listed in *Who's Who in America*.

He has authored, along with numerous articles and monographs in religious publications, four books. They are: *Outline and Argument of St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans*, 1928; *Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks*, 1930; *Law and the Christian Believer in Relation to the Doctrine of Grace*, 1954; and *The Greatness of the Kingdom*, 1959. A short booklet entitled *Bible Truths* has been reprinted ten times and translated into four foreign languages.

He also served ten years as a member of the revision committee for the New Scofield Bible which was published by Oxford in 1967.

He is survived by his wife, Josephine; and two sisters, Mrs. Mary Miller of Long Beach, California, and Mrs. Ruth Ashman of West Covina, California. The McClains left Winona Lake to reside in Friendship Village in March of 1968.—Dr. Homer A. Kent, Sr., vice president, Grace Schools



Dr. Alva J. McClain (left) and Dr. Orville Jobson at a special "My Teacher" presentation at the Grace Bible Conference in 1968.

"A PAINSTAKING SCHOLAR"

Dr. Alva J. McClain was the leading educator in the area of theological education within The Brethren Church for more than thirty-five years. He was an able and proficient scholar, known outside his own denomination and throughout theological conservatism across the United States.

He was a painstaking scholar. There was no effort too great to spend in developing a system of theology that has blessed every student sitting under his ministry and the thousands who have benefited indirectly through that ministry. He possessed the ability to take the abstruse teachings of the Scriptures and make them plain to the average believer in Christ; yet in doing so he never sacrificed the profundity and depth of Biblical truth.

It was under his leadership that the first graduate school of theology in The Brethren Church was organized at Ashland, Ohio, in 1930. That school was perpetuated in substance in Grace Theological Seminary, which was organized under his direction as president in 1937. This school began its session in Akron, Ohio, and two years later moved to Winona Lake, where it established permanent quarters. Even though the first fourteen years of its ministry were in rented quarters, the school continued to grow, until at last it was necessary to move to a campus of its own. During this time a four-year liberal arts college was started, and both schools grew to about 350 during Dr. McClain's presidency.

In addition to the fact that his influence will be felt in The Brethren Church for years to come as its chief theologian, he has left a heritage of literature from his pen that is superb in content and expression. In some ways, perhaps, his greatest contribution to the field of Christian literature is to be measured by his part as a member of the Revision Committee of the Scofield Reference Bible.

It has often been said that an institution is the lengthened shadow of a man. Certainly Grace Theological Seminary is that. But what is even greater is the lengthened shadow of this man in the hundreds of students who have sat under his ministry. Almost instantly they were aware that they were sitting under a master teacher. There was something about this man that captured the attention of the student and made him thrill to the message of the Scriptures. Clarity of thought and the vivid influence of godliness made an indelible impression upon the student, so that memories of the classroom became motivating factors in his life. There were a thrill and an attraction about his lectures that drew one irresistibly to the classroom, and the hour passed as if it were but a few minutes.

His devotion to the Word of God is amply demonstrated in the system of theology which he developed, the digest of which constitutes the statement of faith for Grace Theological Seminary and Grace College. In this system of theology, as well as in his life and ministry, it was evident that Jesus Christ was given preeminence. Those who knew him best soon learned that there were two motivating factors in his life, foreign missionary service and the blessed hope. His great delight was the number of students who were committed to foreign missionary service. He lived from day to day in the hope that Jesus might come at any moment. In the power of this persuasion he wrote a classic of this generation, *The Greatness of the Kingdom*, about the kingdom Jesus Christ will establish at His coming. Today he is with the Lord. He is in the presence of that One whom he constantly reminded us is "full of grace and truth."

I am debtor to this man far beyond what I can ever tell. I came to know him forty years ago. One message

alone was enough to seal a bond of admiration. Two years later we were thrown into direct association. In an ever growing intimacy I have been associated with him for thirty-eight years: as student, colleague, fellow worker, friend, and brother in Christ. Together we joined in the labors of launching Grace Theological Seminary and Grace College. We joined hands in the many duties attendant upon an educational institution. Many were the hours we spent together discussing the problems of the school and deliberating upon the best solution. Even though he retired in 1962 from active duty after twenty-five years as president and professor of Christian theology, he did not cease to show intense interest in the progress of the school. His counsel during these years was an invaluable assistance to me. Almost all that I am under God I owe to this man.

I cannot conclude this testimony without pointing out something that I knew better than any other. His good wife stood by him in all those days of ministry, sharing the burden and heat of the day that The Brethren Church might have an educational institution for the training of its young people. For this peculiarly fitted, self-effacing, and self-sacrificing saint of God and his wife, The Brethren Church must be eternally grateful. This man provided the intellectual leadership necessary to guide The Brethren Church through the peril of apostasy and has given to the denomination an educational institution standing for "the faith once delivered to the saints."—*Dr. Herman A. Hoyt, President, Grace Schools*

A SPIRITUAL FATHER

The debt of love I owe to Dr. Alva J. McClain can never be paid. He was my spiritual father, teacher, and pastor, beginning when I was but twenty years of age. He performed my baptism and ordained me to the gospel ministry. I shall never forget his interest in me as a young missionary candidate, and his counsel and advice in the years that followed were priceless indeed. One of the most precious volumes in my library is autographed, "To my own son in the faith," and signed, "Alva J. McClain." And yet I am only one of hundreds who rise up to call this man blessed.

And now our beloved Dr. McClain has been loosed away upward; his long night of suffering is over, and he is at home with the Lord. During the months of his confinement he had the best of loving care. His devoted wife was constantly at his side to minister to his every need, and now he is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Scripture does not leave us in doubt at this point, for it is written that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. This is a supreme comfort to all of us who knew him intimately and loved him dearly. To depart and be with Christ is far, far better. To the very end he was a living example of the Word of God which he firmly believed and clearly taught. God, whom he faithfully preached to others, did not fail him in his hour of need. The Lord's grace was sufficient. What patient waiting for release, what complete resignation to the holy will of God, what marvelous grace!

Dr. McClain was a special gift of God to The Brethren Church. He was richly endowed with many talents, and he used them all for his Lord and the church. None was greater than that of teaching. He had a special dispensation committed to him from the Lord for this ministry, and all who benefited from his ministry across this land and on foreign soil will be eternally grateful for the privilege of having sat at his feet.

His life as well as his teaching was a sweet savor to Christ; the Lord he loved and proclaimed was manifested in his daily life and walk—so much so that he could have said as did the Apostle Paul, "Be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ."

But we know that Dr. McClain would want this memorial service to include exhortation to steadfastness and faithfulness to those of us who follow in his train. I have chosen by the direction of the Spirit of God the passage in I Corinthians chapter 15, verses 51 to 58: "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. There-

fore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

The particular verse on which I have been led to comment is verse 58. It seems very fitting here at the close of this great chapter on the resurrection of the body and immediately after the mention of the Rapture and Paul's shout of victory over death and the grave through our Lord Jesus Christ. It seems fitting, also, as a timely message to us who this day pay tribute to the founding father of Grace Schools and long-time spiritual leader in The Brethren Church. I believe it is what he would want to say to each one of us. "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

The Apostle introduces this fifty-eighth verse with a "therefore," indicating, of course, that this is a practical exhortation growing out of the doctrine of the verses just preceding. Had it not been for Christ's death for sin, death would have reigned forever over our fallen race. But, thanks be to God, Christ has given the victory. Therefore, because Christ gives the victory over sin and death, Paul says, "I exhort you, my beloved brethren."

In calling the Corinthian Christians his beloved brethren, the Apostle was declaring his tender love for those whom he had begotten in Christ, even though they were carnal and confused. This same tenderness was very often manifested by our departed brother. Many of us have heard him address his

congregations as "my beloved brethren." As a faithful under shepherd he loved the flock of God and desired to present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. His love for the brethren was genuine and Christlike.

The exhortations we have here in this passage are three: First, be ye steadfast; second, be ye unmoveable; and third, be abounding in the work of the Lord. And now I am sure you understand why we have chosen this Scripture. This is what I believe he would say to us.

Be ye steadfast. Mature Christians should be firm and settled, always bearing a positive testimony. Such steadfastness comes only from an intimate knowledge of the Lord and His Word. To this end Dr. McClain placed in high priority the teaching of the Word of God in the church, in the college, and in the seminary. Training men to rightly divide the Word of truth is the way to make mature Christians who stand fast in the Lord.

Be ye unmoveable. There were those in Corinth who denied the resurrection of the dead and were introducing heresies into the church. Satan was at work even in the New Testament church. A similar situation exists in the church today. Men are departing from the faith and giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons. The last days are upon us when men will no longer endure sound doctrine. Liberalism and all sorts of false teachings threaten the life of the church today. But we are exhorted to stand unmoveable in our profession of faith and in our labor of love. We must resist every attempt to overthrow the fundamentals of the faith. We must maintain Grace College and Seminary as Bible-believing, Christ-centered schools

clinging to the fundamentals of the Christian faith. Evangelical America needs the testimony of our schools today. The founding fathers have bequeathed to us a heritage of sound doctrine to which we must be true.

And then Paul exhorts that we should abound in the work of the Lord. This is no day for lethargy; the king's business requires haste. The night comes when no man can work. We must give the Lord the best we have and increase more and more in our labor for him.

The work of the Lord referred to in this passage is twofold: His work in the world and His work in His people. God's purpose in the world today is to gather up a people for His name. This is done by world evangelization, which includes everything that is involved in the spread of the gospel message: namely, the calling, the training, and the sending of laborers into the harvest field. The field is the world, so we are to witness to Christ both in our Jerusalem and to the uttermost part of the earth. Through that witness Jesus Christ will call out His own. This is one aspect of the work in which we are exhorted to abound.

Then there is God's work in His people. This has to do with the progressive work of sanctification, the development of spiritual life in each individual believer. We are exhorted elsewhere in the Word to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord. This means that we are to grow less like the world and more like our lovely Lord Jesus. We are to be filled with the Spirit and to be constantly bearing His precious fruit in our lives. This, too, is the Lord's work; it is what He does in us.

To these exhortations the Apostle

affixes the little word "always." Always abounding. Perseverance should characterize our labor for the Lord. We are to be never weary in well doing, never giving up the fight, but going on and on until the battle is won or we have finished our course.

"Ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." There is nothing empty about serving the Lord. God honors those who honor Him. Whatever we do in word or in deed is to be done in the name of the Lord Jesus. We are neither to seek our own glory nor yet to trust the arm of flesh, but to have an eye single for His glory. In this self-seeking world today we must manifest a disinterestedness as we abound in the work of the Lord; otherwise, it is not the work of the Lord but the work of man.

These brief exhortations come to us afresh today and at a very favorable moment to quietly dedicate ourselves anew to the Lord and to His work, as did our beloved teacher. He has come to the end of his labors; he fought the good fight and finished his course; he kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for him a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give him at that day—and not to him only, but to all them who love the Lord's appearing.

It was the glorified Lord who said, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." Surely our brother has had a triumphant and victorious entrance into the presence of the Lord whom he loved and served, and this by the matchless grace of God.—Dr. Orville D. Jobson, veteran missionary and member of the Board of Trustees of Grace Schools

"TALL IN THE SHOCK"

From the Book of Job we glean a timely truth: "Thou shalt come to the grave in full age, as a shock of corn cometh in his season" (Job 5:26). The tragedy of history is that too few come to that fullness of age, nor to any appreciable season of fruitfulness. Of our beloved teacher, counselor, and fellow-laborer, Dr. Alva J. McClain, no such negative testimony could possibly be imagined. Of a certainty, he came to fullness of age—he was allotted his four-score years. But his fullness of age was more than in chronological years—he came to age in person, in wisdom, in love, and in service to God and man. Duration means nothing unless there is contribution—he made that contribution in a multitude of ways. He *lived his life* and we have all benefitted from that living.

The Job passage speaks of a *shock* of corn. A shock is made up of more than one stalk. There is a significance here. A truly great man is one who not only stands tall himself, but helps others to stand tall with him. As a stalk in the shock, he stood with others of our dedicated men, who, in times of crisis, became the founders and progenitors of our beloved Fellowship of Brethren Churches, and of Grace Schools. Most of these fruitful "stalks" have now been garnered into the heavenly places; a few remain with us today. We thank God that there has been a fruitful "shock" made up of dedicated "stalks."

God lays His hands upon men for two reasons: holiness and usefulness. The price of holiness and the price of usefulness is to "be crucified with Christ." This was true of our brother—he laid his all "on the altar of sacrifice" for his Lord. For to him ". . . to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

Several of us were among the first students of this blessed teacher at Grace Theological Seminary. The intellectual atmosphere in which this relationship first existed was one of spiritual fog. The approach to the Bible for us was with a big "If"—*if* the Bible is true, *if* there is a virgin birth, *if* there is a second advent, *if* there is any moral obligation laid upon man in the sight of God. He changed all that with a positive declaration of "Since"—*since* these things be so, therefore, certain things must follow and certain responses are obligatory. He was to us, in those early years of uncertainty, all that the radar beam is to the pilot when visibility is zero. He stood in opposition to apostasy in theological matters. One cannot magnify Christ in such sacrificial service and holy living without opposition. Out of the opposition he experienced was born Grace Schools. In every crisis, God has his man and his men. In that time it was Dr. Alva J. McClain, and those stalwarts of the faith connected with him. He was a leader for God and for good.

Personally, in my relationship with this man, as student, as fellow-elder, as co-administrator—and I speak for others who have shared these cherished relationships, I have found him to be one who revealed many of the characteristics that made Bible personalities worth remembering. Like as was said by David, we might say of him: "I de-

light to do thy will, O my God." He, like Paul, "was set for the defense of the gospel." He had the same attitude as John, who declared: "He must increase and I must decrease." Paul wrote: "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just . . . pure . . . lovely . . . of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." To think of Dr. McClain was to truly "think on these things."

We have appreciated Dr. McClain as a man of holiness—we have benefitted therefrom. We have seen this man, small of stature and many times weak of body, stand tall and straight in the pulpit, vigorously wielding the Sword of the Spirit, defending the truth—thus we have been influenced to be dogmatic and decisive. We have seen him sit quietly behind the desk, expounding with clarity some baffling portion of the Scriptures on justification, sanctification, predestination, eschatology—and thus we have discovered that there is truth; there are answers. We have sat with him alone in the counseling session and have benefitted from his understanding, loving admonitions—and thus we have learned that there is victory in Christ. We have stood beside him on these platforms as he received the plaudits of others, and was the recipient of earned honors; all of which he received as unto the glory of his Lord. Thus we have become aware of the fact that there is a comely dignity that results from humility. He could safely say unto us all: "What things ye have seen in me, do!"

The last visit Mrs. Ashman and I were privileged to make with the McClains was somewhat different than

previous visits. His holiness had been proved, his usefulness had been demonstrated, and he was aware that the day of his sharing with the glory of Christ in the heavenlies was not too far distant. And, while he clung to the hope that the rapture would occur before his departure, he, nonetheless, made this no matter of great concern. He had been given an assignment in the school of history; his aspirations had become accomplishments; he was, therefore, ready to march, robed in righteousness, into the commencement exercises in the presence of the Master Teacher; there to receive the full authority of his heavenly degrees. Like

David he seemed to say: "Now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee" (Psa. 39:7). And so, the Lord called him home. To us, we weep—"Sunset." To him, he exclaims, "Dawn!"

Dr. McClain was "a burning and shining light." It is therefore fitting that his good wife should have the privilege of throwing the switch for the campus-lights ceremony to flood Grace campus with physical light, even as he flooded the same campus with spiritual light.

It is my privilege to announce that a suitable memorial fund, honoring Dr. McClain, will be established.

Consciously, or unconsciously,

every one of us follows another. We become, to a degree, copies of that which we follow. Since this is true, we first follow Christ, and then follow someone who is Christlike. Obviously, we should choose one of the Lord's masterpieces for a pattern—anything less would keep us from coming to fullness of age and would make us less than fruitful in our season. Having had the privilege of knowing Dr. Alva J. McClain, we are glad to accept him as one of our earthly patterns to follow. As Timothys, we aspire to be like him, our Paul.—*Dr. Kenneth B. Ashman, president, board of trustees, Grace Schools*



Gifts for the Dr. Alva J. McClain Memorial Fund

May be mailed to:

**Dr. Herman A. Hoyt, president
Grace College and Seminary
Winona Lake, Ind. 46590**

"A TIMOTHY IN THE FAITH"

Although more than 200 young men probably went out into Christian service under the ministry of my father (the late Louis S. Bauman), yet of all those there was one who was undoubtedly his own son Timothy in the faith, and that was Dr. McClain.

I remember my father speaking on one occasion of the day of Dr. McClain's conversion. It was in a little church in Sunnyside, Washington, in the northwestern part of the United States. Dr. McClain had been brought up in a godly home, but had for a season rebelled and resisted the teaching. He was, however, attracted by the preaching of prophecy in the evangelistic meeting my father was conducting. Probably the teaching of the Book of Daniel, as much as anything else, helped to direct him back into the channels in which he had been reared. Always a logical thinker, and the evidence was overwhelming; he was brought under deep conviction. As he came down the aisle a woman in the back of the audience literally threw up her hands and said, "If the Lord can save Alva McClain, He can save anybody." Well, the Lord did save Alva McClain.

From the time of their conversion, Dr. McClain and his wife began to grow spiritually, as they followed my father to Long Beach, California, where he was then in the earliest years of his

great pastorate in that city.

Actually, my father was a one-man theological seminary to three young men who were converted almost at the same time. These men gathered together as a school in some of the evening hours of the week, and he taught them as he saw their hunger for an understanding of the Word.

One was a man who had been saved from a life of deep sin as dope had fastened its hold on his body. His name was Francis J. Reagan. After his salvation, he attended Xenia Theological Seminary to further prepare for the Lord's work.

In these training classes, along with Dr. McClain and Rev. Francis Reagan, was Dr. Stewart McClellan, who later became the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood.

Occasionally Dr. Bauman would have one of these men speak before the congregation. Two of them spoke with some degree of eloquence and made a physical appearance which impressed people. One day one of the leading members of the church came to my father and said, "Brother Bauman, two of those men I think you ought to encourage, but I don't know if this young chap Alva McClain will make it." It was not because of what he said, but because he was short of stature, and these other men were over six feet tall. I remember my father said, "You leave Alva McClain alone. I'm not a prophet, but I'll make this prediction: he will pass both of the other men."

It was in 1946, I think, when Dr. McClain first contacted me relative to coming to Grace Seminary. It was my happy privilege—one of the choice memories of my life—to have spent fourteen years serving as a colleague of his.

Dr. McClain's ministry has extended far beyond the borders of The Brethren Church and will continue, not only in LeTourneau College, with whom I am now associated, in Longview, Texas, but in many other institutions across this country. It suddenly occurred to me that we have on our faculty and staff, ten who have come under the impact of his ministry and were greatly influenced by his teaching. The words in the Book of Hebrews in tribute to Abel, "He being dead yet speaketh," are so true of Dr. McClain.

Dr. Raymond Gingrich, who is associated as teacher in theology and Bible at LeTourneau College and who was pastor of the church in Akron which mothered this infant school at its beginning, said to me yesterday: "I wonder if Dr. McClain and your father have gotten together yet." Riding up here this morning my daughter said the same thing to me. The two sisters of Dr. McClain also spoke of that meeting which they felt had undoubtedly taken place. My answer in each case was this, "I am sure they have." If only the veil could be lifted from our eyes, we could see.—*Dr. Paul R. Bauman, director of Tours, LeTourneau College.* ▼

CONTENDER FOR THE FAITH

The phrase, "Only be strong and of a good courage" is repeated four times in chapter one of Joshua. Over a period of some forty-five years I have had very close friendship with Dr. Alva J. McClain, and I have concluded that no one was stronger in defense of the Gospel and more courageous in its presentation than he. Truly he was "strong and of a good courage."

Those who know the National Fellowship of Brethren Churches today might say, "Well, they're a wonderful fellowship of churches standing so solidly for evangelical Christian faith." And so far as I know, not a minister

or leader in The Brethren Church denies any of the fundamentals of the Christian faith. That was not always so. The first quarter of this century was a period of grave denials and great conflict in The Brethren Church and especially from about the years of 1910 to 1920 or 1925. In 1915 a man stood on the podium of the Winona Lake Auditorium and said that it was not necessary to believe in the deity of Christ or the virgin birth to be in good standing in The Brethren Church and in her ministry. Years of contention followed, and Dr. McClain was one of two or three who led in contending for the faith. As a result, in 1921 the national conference approved a statement known as the *Message of the Brethren Ministry*. Dr. McClain prepared the original copy of

this—the only statement of faith of the National Fellowship of Brethren Churches.

I rejoice in the privilege of having had fellowship with this man of God in the pastorate, in the work of foreign missions, and as a member of the Board of Trustees of Grace Schools.

When I desired personal counsel and advice in critical situations, Dr. McClain provided it. I never went away disappointed. I rejoice in the friendship of this man of God.

There is one portion of Scripture that I would like to use from the pen of the great Apostle, who wrote, "Copy me as I copy Christ." Dr. McClain copied Christ.

—Dr. Russell D. Barnard, Moderator,
National Fellowship of Brethren
Churches. ▼

"THEY'RE TALKING IT OVER UP THERE"

There is a rejoicing in my heart as I pay tribute to this man of God who has meant so much to me in my life during these last thirty years that I have known him, especially since he led in the bringing of the Brethren institutions—Grace College and Seminary and others—here to Winona Lake.

In speaking with Mrs. McClain and mentioning the fact my wife went home to be with the Lord two years ago, I said: "Well, now they're talking it over up there." And I do believe that God (and this came to me from Brother McClain in some of his comments on Psalm twenty-three) does not withhold anything from those who have gone on before that would make for their rejoicing and gladness.

His ministry has been closed here, and he has been promoted to glory. He lived what he taught, and he looked forward to the joys that he is now experiencing. With us he sang, "Face to face with Christ my Saviour, Face to

face—what will it be—When with rapture I behold Him, Jesus Christ who died for me? Face to face I shall behold Him, Far beyond the starry sky; Face to face in all His glory, I shall see Him—" and you know we end the song by saying, "By and by." I am glad for him it is *here* and *now*. So we will ever remember and thank God for him. Annie Johnson Flint said:

There's a loved one who is missing from the fireside and the feast,
There's a face that has vanished and a voice that has ceased,
But we know he has passed forever from our mortal grief and pain,
And we thank Thee, oh our Father, for the blessings that remain.

Thanksgiving, oh thanksgiving, that his love has blessed us here,
That so long he walked beside us sharing every smile and tear,
For the joy that past has brought us and can never take away,

For the sweet and gracious memories growing dearer every day,
For the love that still is left us, for the friends that hold us dear,
And the lives that yet may need us, for their guidance and their cheer;
For the hope of that glad meeting far from mortal grief and pain,
And in spite of our sorrow, we say, We thank Thee, our Father,
For these blessings that remain.

So for me and for you this service will be a beautiful memory and a continuing inspiration because God's hand was on this man.

—Dr. J. Palmer Muntz, President
American Association for Jewish Evangelism. ▼

The World Responds

Telegrams, letters, and cards of condolence and tribute were received from the following up to the time of publication:

- Dr. Glen A. Lehman, national executive secretary, Independent Fundamental Churches of America
- Dr. Paul Mininger, president, Goshen College
- Dr. Allan A. MacRae, president, Faith Theological Seminary
- Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., president, Bob Jones University
- Dr. Harry L. Coons, president, and Kenneth S. Kantzer, dean, Trinity Evangelical School
- Dr. Larry W. Poland, president, Miami Bible College
- Dr. Hudson Armerding, president, Wheaton College
- Dr. Charles L. Feinberg, dean, Talbot Seminary
- Dr. Frank E. Gaebelein, Scofield Bible Revision Committee
- Dr. William Culbertson, president, Moody Bible Institute
- Dr. E. Schuyler English, Scofield Bible Revision Committee
- First Brethren Church, Whittier, California
- Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Culver
- Dr. S. H. Sutherland, president, Biola Schools and Colleges
- Dr. Douglas B. McCorkle, president, Philadelphia College of Bible
- Dr. Harry Hardwick, president, LeTourneau College
- Rev. and Mrs. Leo Polman
- First Brethren Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Rev. and Mrs. Robert Griffith and family
- Dr. and Mrs. Ralph H. Stoll
- Dr. John G. Balyo, pastor, Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio
- Rev. Allan Flint, pastor, Fellowship Baptist Church, Warsaw, Indiana
- Dr. Harold Lindsell, editor, Christianity Today

Grace News

Inaugurate New Campus Lighting

Approximately 250 Grace College and Seminary students, administrators, and friends were gathered on the terrace of the new library-learning center Thursday night, November 14, for ceremonies inaugurating a new campus lighting system.

Mrs. Alva J. McClain, widow of the late Dr. McClain, founder and first president of Grace Schools, was present for the event. The lighting ceremonies concluded the day of memorial services for Dr. McClain.

In his remarks, Dr. Herman A. Hoyt, president of Grace Schools, compared the new lighting system to the "bright light of Dr. McClain's life." He said the lights would stand as a memorial to Dr. McClain, whose vision and courage gave birth to Grace Schools and contributed largely to the establishment of the National Fellowship of Brethren Churches. ▼

Shown here with one of the new lighting fixtures are (left to right) Dr. Homer A. Kent, Sr., vice president of Grace Schools; Mrs. Alva J. McClain, wife of the schools' founder; Max Fluke, superintendent of the college construction crew; Mrs. Herman A. Hoyt; Dr. Herman A. Hoyt; president of Grace Schools; and Ed Lewis, Grace College student body president.



Announcing the

18th ANNUAL GRACE BIBLE CONFERENCE

JANUARY 28-31, 1969

GRACE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, WINONA LAKE, INDIANA

SPEAKERS:

Dr. L. S. Bauman Memorial Lectures

By Rev. Donald F. Carter, pastor, Grace Brethren Church, Anaheim, California

Dr. R. Paul Miller Memorial Lectures

By Dr. Paul E. Little, director of evangelism for Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship

Seminary Alumni Sponsored Lectures

By Dr. Alden Gannett, president, Southeastern Bible College, Birmingham, Alabama

ALUMNI DAY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1969

Alumni Banquet at noon

Special alumni rates for lodging at the Winona Hotel: \$6.00 single and \$3.50 per person for two or more in a room.